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CLASSIFICATION

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COUNTRY Rumania

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

TOPIC Public Health in Rumania

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1. The Rumanian Ministry of Health is headed by Dr. Vasile Marza and the Assistant Minister is one Leopatu, (fnu). Ministerial advisers are Dr. V. Dimitriu, Placiu, (fnu), and Dunareanu, (fnu). The Ministry is divided into the following departments with department heads as indicated:

- a. Instruction-Corbu, (fnu).
- b. Research-Unidentified.
- c. Personnel-Pojghie, (fnu).
- d. Finance-Procup, (fnu).
- e. Public Health-Bolomon, (fnu).
- f. Practitioners-Igor Gheorghiu.
- g. Equipment-Unidentified.

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2. Through its own departments and the medical departments of the district Soviets (Maturile Judetene), the Ministry of Health directs and controls the entire field of medical activities in hospitals as well as with practitioners. The medical departments of the district Soviets were established in May 1949, replacing both the inspectorates of the Ministry and the medical agencies of counties, cities and districts, which were dissolved. Practitioners are controlled by local medical labor unions and medical departments of the party which fix the income tax they are obliged to pay and supervise all of their activities. County physicians employed by the rural administration are periodically summoned to "share" for two or three-month courses on Marxism and Leninism.
3. Following the instruction reform law passed in the summer of 1948, medical instruction was separated from universities and transferred from the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education to that of the Ministry of Health. The latter ministry established medical institutes in all towns in which university medical faculties had existed. These institutes took over the installations of the universities. The Bucharest Medical Institute is composed of a Universal Medical Faculty (training of physicians), a Hygiene Faculty (training of medical personnel), a Veterinary Faculty, a Pharmaceutic Faculty, a Dental Faculty and a Pediatrics Faculty. The headmaster of the Bucharest institute is Professor Dr. C. I. Ionescu, Dean of

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the Universal Faculty is Professor Dr. Hiascu, (fnu).

4. The students remain at the institute from four to six years depending upon the course pursued. They graduate as licenced., lic.med.vet., lic.pharm. etc. Subsequently they are obliged to work in assignments selected for them by the Ministry of Health. Those who desire a doctor's degree must study for two more years. This phase of study, however, is optional. There is no freedom of instruction. Each professor must present his teaching program for the academic year to the head of the studies department of the medical institute, Dr. Turci, (fnu), who is authorized to modify the program and give detailed orders concerning the subject matters to be taught. One more means of controlling lectures and the manner in which they are conducted is the labor union of the medical institute which includes the body of teachers and all employees and which has unlimited power. Each academic class has a students' committee of its own and these committees also serve as a means of control. They are in a position even to bar professors from holding lectures. All professors are required to attend a yearly one-month political training course on 'Marxism-Leninism'. This course consists of daily lectures and problems lasting from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. with only a short lunch period. Students are required to become members of the National Union of Romanian Students (UNR) (Uniunea Nationala a Studentilor Romani) a branch of the Romanian Labor Party. Applications from high school graduates for admission to one of the departments of the medical institute are noted upon first by the faculty but by the UNR which judges the students on the basis of social origin and political attitude. As a result of this policy, the majority of the students presently attending the medical institute originate from the lowest social classes and consists of confirmed Communists. Any bourgeois student, who in an exceptional case might happen to be admitted, would be required to pay prohibitive fees ranging from 70,000 to 150,000 lei per year.
5. The regime succeeded in socializing the medical profession by administrative measures. Nearly all physicians at present are employed at fixed salaries in hospitals and public clinics and have no private practice of their own. Only a very small number of real practitioners remain in the country. The campaign against the independent medical profession began in 1947 when such high taxes were levied on physicians, that most of them were forced to give up their private practices. Most of those, who managed to continue for a while were obliged to give up after the currency reform of 15 August 1947 made it financially impossible for any one to engage a private physician. The few remaining physicians fall into two categories:
 - a. A few noted specialists.
 - b. A relatively great number of Jewish physicians who, through their connections with the Romanian Labor Party and their political versatility, manage simultaneously to hold a number of favored positions in various hospitals or public institutions, in addition to maintaining their original private practices.

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